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The Annual Meetings.

We are enabled to give an extended report of both of the annual meetings held by branches of the Tunker Church, last week. We believe our readers will appreciate the enterprise, and be interested in the articles, although they occupy considerable space.

It seems hardly possible that the two branches who held great meetings last week, were a few years ago one church, so vast is the difference between them on questions regarding church observances, and in the general character of conduct in the Pentecostal proceedings.

The Old Order brethren are taking up the old customs of holding the yearly meetings, while the Conservatives are seeking a plan by which their conference can be made self supporting. The former have nothing mysterious and secret connected with their labors, while the proceedings of the latter yet remain an enigma to all who have not been in a position to know just how things are managed. The Old Order brethren are fair candid and honest in their declarations, and the world knows who they are, where they are and what they are; but the Conservatives are not so. They hold annual meetings and make decisions to be enforced or violated as suits their own convenience or caprice. They are progressive or conservative, Gospel-alone or Annual Meeting, for progression or for old order, uniformity in nonconformity, or for nonconformity to uniformity as suits (not their principles) their purpose.

The course they are pursuing has antagonized both the old order and progressive element of the Church, and it seems they are determined to persevere in this course of self-destruction, until they have reaped the fruits of their folly in the full realization of the Savior's declaration that a house divided against itself cannot stand.

We are not in any sense at war with the rank and file of the Conservative branch of the Tunker Church: we are brethren, and as such we regard and esteem them; but we can have no respect for that portion of their leaders, and that part of their church polity which continually separates from their communion and casts out as evil, members who are true to their conviction of right and duty, and who are guilty of no violations, even of discipline, which is not readily condoned in others, who are favorites.

The Old Order annual meeting was certainly the most en-

joyable one of the two; and while we differ, we are happy to grant to them the same liberty of conscience and right to practice, that we ask for ourselves, and find satisfaction in regarding them "Brethren" as we do all who stand honorably in the rank of the old church.

A Bible student sent us manuscript from Yerks, Pa., a few days ago, and forgot to tell us who he was.

How long will it take people to learn that editors have no use for manuscript, without a credential?

The report of the Old Order Annual Meeting, and the copied report from the Commercial Gazette, has occupied so much of our space this week that we have been obliged to defer our own report of the Mexico Meeting until next week.

The Moravians recently lost an energetic missionary in the death of Greenland Workman Brodbeck, who was lost with the vessel taking him back to his post of duty. This is the first accident of the kind that has happened in the extensive missionary enterprises of the Moravians in the thirty-six years of their existence.

Old Damascus, where Paul met Ananias, and received the restoration of his eye-sight, is not entirely Christian, yet the name of Christ has perhaps never since Ananias' day been unrepresented there. It now has a population of 120,000; of which about 80,000 are Moslems, about 20,000 Christians, and about 9,000 Jews.

Semi-Editorial.

Since my last, I have made a visit to Milford, Indiana, to join brother Mallott in serving at a communion meeting. Landed at Milford Junction at about 2 o'clock in the morning. Was met at the depot by Bro. Lewis Munce, and kindly cared for, and conveyed to Milford in time for forenoon services, by brother and sister Munce. They are still in communion with the German Baptists, but are of the good kind. Eld. D. Shively came by their house on Sunday morning and wanted brother Munce to accompany him to the Chapel to their services, saying he wanted a private interview with brother M. He spoke quite insolently of me to them, in my presence, but he is welcome to all the advantage he gained by it. I'm of the opinion that they think fully as much of me as they do of the elder. I am really grateful to them for their kindness to me.

Had the pleasure of preaching to the Brethren at Milford, in the forenoon, and of hearing brother Mallott in the evening. Congregations good, and of course the meetings were good. Stopped with sister Rohrer, my cousin, but during my stay visited a number of families in the town and country. On Monday evening was the communion meeting. It was held in an upper room, and about sixty persons participated, about one-fourth being from adjoining churches. It was an enjoyable feast, and we believe did much credit to the Cause. Brethren J. C. Cripe, D. S. Cripe, and Perry Owens, ministers, were present and assisted in the services. Nine persons had been

baptized on Thursday before, and two on Sunday, and two on Monday. Eight of these have given their names last winter, during brother Mallott's meetings.

Much credit is due brother Mallott for his indefatigable labors in building up the Cause at this place. He has endeared himself very much to the people of Milford, and we believe they are very dear to him. The church is in a promising condition, and if brethren Owens and Montgomery will be energetic in "feeding the flock," glorious results may be looked for from that part of the moral heritage.

This place is in the border of the German Baptist congregation where the great drama of 1882 was played; and only a few miles from school house "No Seven," where the memorial of the Standing Committee was drawn up, and the Ashland convention finally called. Our work at that place has but just begun. Scores of others will join us when they learn the truth. And the German Baptist church itself will be much improved. Their elders have already determined not to enforce the order. Several sisters were lately taken into the church by Eld. W. R. Deeter without promising to conform to the order. In fact on the condition that they may wear hats. One of these had come out at Bro. Mallott's meetings. Now, mark you we give this as a fact. It is all right with us, if the church and Annual Meeting can stand it.

On Tuesday, brother Mallott went to North Manchester to commence a protracted meeting, and I hope he will accomplish a good work. I preached at Milford on Tuesday evening, and left Wednesday afternoon. The Lord bless the church at Milford.

HOLSINGER.

Report of the Sabbath School Convention at Fair Haven.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Brethren Sabbath School Convention of Northern Ohio, was held at the Fair Haven church in Wayne County, on Friday and Saturday, May 29th and 30th, 1885. The day was rainy and the Convention did not open as auspiciously as desired, but with the return of fair weather, every feature brightened and large and enthusiastic gatherings were held on Saturday, with deep interest manifested.

The first session was held on Friday afternoon, at 2 p. m. The devotional exercises were conducted by E. Mason, of Farmersville. The Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and Secretary, being absent the Convention was called to order by P. J. Brown, and E. L. Yoder was elected Moderator, pro tem.; and W. C. Perry, Secretary, pro tem. An earnest and interesting address of welcome was delivered by Wm. Keifer, extolling the progress of the work, and heartily welcoming the delegates, visitors, friends and all, to Fair Haven, to engage in the glorious Cause.

The Assistant Moderator, J. Keim, came while the address was being delivered, and at once took the chair.

H. R. Holsinger responded to the address of welcome, in which he excused brother Mallott who was expected to perform this work. He admonished all to

show brother Keifer, by their earnest cooperation, that his welcome was appreciated.

A motion was made by brother Holsinger, authorizing the Clerk to insert above the printed insertion in the History of the Convention, the following: "The following insertion is the call to the first Sunday School Convention held in the State of Ohio," which carried.

Committees appointed: On Resolutions, H. R. Holsinger, Isaac Kilhefner, and B. F. Swinehart; on Queries, E. L. Yoder, Wm. Keifer and E. Mason. Bro. W. C. Perry read the history of the former S. S. Conventions in Northern Ohio.

SECOND SESSION.

"The Best Method of Entertaining Children in Sabbath Schools" was treated by I. Kilhefner, and W. C. Perry; "Music in the S. S.," by H. S. Jacobs and E. L. Yoder.

A motion carried to appoint a committee to fill a ticket of officers for the coming Convention year, and the following were appointed: E. Mason, P. J. Brown and E. L. Yoder.

THIRD SESSION.

Queries were answered by W. C. Perry, H. R. Holsinger, Isaac Kilhefner and P. J. Brown.

A motion was here made and carried to extend courtesies to all present who may be interested in Sunday School work; also to request a copy of Sister Homan's essay for publication.

B. F. Swinehart responded to "The Best Methods of Teaching Children who cannot read," also Sarah Keim, by an essay. By motion, her essay was requested for publication.

"How can we Secure the Best Attendance at Sabbath School" was discussed in an essay, by Sister W. C. Perry, and by E. Mason.

Bro. Brown called attention to the work of the committee appointed to make out a ticket of officers for the coming year. The question of a place to hold the next Convention came up, and all was deferred for consideration during the noon recess.

FOURTH SESSION.

The usual preliminaries were engaged in, and queries were answered by P. J. Brown, Sister W. C. Perry, H. S. Jacobs, Wm. Keifer, E. Mason, and R. C. Ward.

Dialogistic Declamation, by Sister C. A. Miller, Ida Shidler, Clara Underwood and Sadie Farner, "Who is the Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven." A motion by E. Mason was passed requesting the publication of the declamation. The work was performed with such effect that tears were shed, and complimentary remarks were made by E. Mason, Isaac Kilhefner, H. R. Holsinger, P. J. Brown and sister Sadie Keim.

"Responsibilities of S. S. Officers" was discussed by J. Keim and E. Mason.

E. L. Yoder announced that the Committee on Officers was not ready to report, and asked for a decision as to where the next Convention would be held. The matter of location was finally left to the Executive Committee.

E. Mason stated that he was a representative of Southern Ohio churches, and asked for recognition and cooperation with the northern churches in the work,

and a motion was passed to that effect.

E. L. Yoder, in behalf of the committee, presented a list of officers for the coming year, and it was accepted on motion, without alteration. The ticket was as follows: For Moderator, W. C. Perry; Assistant Moderator, A. A. Cober; Secretary, Clara Miller; Treasurer, D. J. Miller; Executive Committee, H. S. Jacobs, Susan Homan, Sarah Keim, E. Mason, I. Kilhefner.

P. J. Brown asked for the report of the Committee on Resolutions. The following are the resolutions as adopted:

Resolved, That Conventions are great helps to the Sabbath school cause, and we look forward with bright anticipations for glorious results from this convention.

Resolved, That our Sabbath schools may be improved by vocal and instrumental music, ornamentation with pictures, maps, charts and flowers, and above all by smiling faces and kind words, and such other expressions of earnest, Christian sympathy as will attract both children and parents.

Resolved, That we recommend the appointment of a committee on queries, whose duty will be to prepare and collect practical questions for presentation at the following Convention.

Resolved, That the progress in the Sabbath School cause in the Brethren Church is encouraging; and we recommend increased diligence in every department of the work.

Resolved, That we recommend that this Convention be made and known as the Brethren Sabbath School Convention of Ohio, instead of Northern Ohio.

Resolved, That we tender a vote of thanks to Prof. Ward and Troxel and the class, for the excellent music furnished the Convention.

Resolved, That we gratefully appreciate the kindness and hospitality of the people of Fair Haven, and cheerful manner in which all the workers have discharged the duties assigned to them.

Resolved, That we are gratified with the outlook of the future of our Church and the Sabbath Schools under its charge; and we pray the blessing of our Heavenly Father upon one and all; and if we should not again be permitted to join in any of these earthly associations, may we so live that we shall all meet in the great Convention.

Where congregations never break up,
And Sabbaths never end.

R. R. HOLSINGER,
ISAAC KILHEFNER, } Com
B. F. SWINEHART,

On suggestion of I. Kilhefner, a committee was appointed by the chair, as provided for in the resolutions as follows: E. Mason, Isaac Kilhefner, E. L. Yoder, Kate Yost, Catie Hershberger.

FIFTH SESSION.

Eight queries were answered. E. L. Yoder spoke on the topic of "Our progress in Sunday School Work," and additional spirited and enthusiastic remarks were made by P. J. Brown.

"The Outlook" was presented in an essay by Lottie Holsinger, and by vote, she was asked to furnish a copy for publication.

Miscellaneous business followed, and the Convention, proper, ended with general remarks by several of the brethren, a song by Prof. Ward, and a general song, prayer by H. S. Jacobs, doxology, and the benediction by E. Mason.

The distinguishing features of the Convention were, the address of Welcome, and the Declamation. The latter will be published in a future number of the EVANGELIST, with instructions how to perform it, and all will have an opportunity of appreciating it, in a measure, as it was appreciated by the audience at the Convention.

The Children's Meeting held on Sunday 31st, by Elder Holsinger, was also an instructive and entertaining exercise.

As a whole the Convention was successful, and demonstrated that the Progressive Tunkers' claim to the spirit of progress is not a false pretense, but a living actuality.

Bro. E. Mason preached at the Church, after the Children's Meeting, and brother Josiah Keim, in the evening.